

Yes 12 No 0 Abs0

Sponsors:

Justin Folsom

Blake Bjornson

Mark Eggensperger

Vote Necessary: Majority

Intent: To express the Associated Students of Montana State University's opposition to House Bill 228

Whereas, HB 228, proposed by Representative Krayton Kerns and passed by the 2009 Montana House of Representatives on February 10, 2009, seeks to make many drastic and potentially dangerous changes to Montana law regarding access to and use of weapons,

Whereas, Montana State University serves as home, work, and school for thousands of students, faculty, and staff;

Whereas, the Associated Students of Montana State University (ASMSU) recognize and respect the rights of law-abiding citizens of Montana to keep and bear arms provided by the 2nd Amendment of the United States Constitution;

Whereas, current law of the State of Montana allows for citizens with a permit to carry concealed weapons;

Whereas, passage of HB 228 would allow anyone, including convicted felons, to carry concealed weapons in Montana cities and towns without a permit;

Whereas, passage of HB 228 would allow individuals to brandish a weapon without being prosecuted;

Whereas, passage of HB 228 would make it lawful to respond in self-defense with deadly force to the display of a weapon;

Whereas, passage of HB228 would switch the burden of proof to the state in self-defense cases;

Whereas, for the significant majority of the Associated Students of Montana State University, passage of HB 228 will undermine their sense of personal safety.

Whereas, a personal sense of safety is essential to Montana State University's educational mission.

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that ASMSU opposes HB 228, and strongly urges a do not pass on this bill.

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Schweitzer, Senate Judiciary Committee, Gallatin County Legislators, President Gamble, The ASMSU Exponent, and the Bozeman Chronicle.